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"UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS"

EPISODE #37

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11:30 to 12:30 A.M. C.S.T.

OCTOBER 27, 1932

THURSDAY

(ORCHESTRA: RANGER SONG)

ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers"

(ORCHESTRA: QUARTET)

ANNOUNCER:

Now let's see what's going on in the Pine Cone District of the National Forest, where the veteran Ranger, Jim Robbins, is in charge, and his new assistant, Jerry Quick, has been learning the ropes this year in the management and protection of the forest resources. And, by the way, maybe you've noticed that since he's been here, Jerry seems to have gotten kind of sweet on that village school teacher, Mary Halloway. -- Well, supervision of the autumn migration of the sheep from the national forest ranges, timber sale work, road and trail construction, and the usual pile-up of office work have kept Jim and Jerry occupied the last few days, and today we find them at work on reports again in the office of the Pine Cone Ranger Station. --

JIM: (PUFFS AT PIPE) Doggone!

JERRY: What's the matter, Jim? Your pipe gone out again?

JIM: Yep. I got to figgerin' so hard here, I forgot to keep pullin' on 'er.

JERRY: I guess I'll have a smoke myself, while we're at it.

JIM: You haven't been smoking much lately, Jerry.

JERRY: No. Since that big Bald Mountain fire I haven't had much desire for it. I ate so much smoke fighting that fire that I got kinda fed up on smoke in any way, shape, or form. -- Here, have a light?

JIM: (PUFFS AT PIPE) Thanks. -- Well, I see you still remember to break your match in two.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Sure. -- See there?

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Maybe you've heard how old Paul Bunyan - the old time legendary hero of the lumberjacks, you know - used to be pretty careful about fire too.

JERRY: How was that?

JIM: /never
Well, old Paul Bunyan cared much about cigarettes, they say, but he was mighty fond of his pipe -

JERRY: Something like Ranger Jim Robbins?

(PUTS AT PIPE) Doghouse

JIM:

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remember to break your match in two.

(LAUGHS) Sure. -- See there?

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How was that?

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Never

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JIM:

said, but he was mighty fond of his pipe -

Something like Ranger Jim Hobbs?

JERRY:

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Well, maybe. Anyway, he was sittin' on top of the San Francisco Peaks one day, fixin' to smoke his pipe and enjoy the scenery, and the wind was a-blowin' pretty strong and kept blowing out his matches before he could get his pipe lit. But being careful about fire, he broke each match in several pieces and tossed 'em down onto the plains where there wasn't anything to catch fire. -- Now they show those old matches of Paul's to tourists as the Petrified Forest.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) So that's the way the Petrified Forest originated? I bet you can't find that explanation in the books of historical geology.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Probably not. - Anyway, they say that later on that same day, Paul Bunyan spied a smoke 'way off in the northwest, so he stepped down off the Peaks and set out right away to put the fire out. But before he started - being always careful about fire, you know, - he tapped his pipe on the top of a mountain and carefully covered the charred tobacco with dirt. - Well, a few years ago, a chap discovered the remains of that pipe tobacco, and claimed them as cold fields.

(JERRY LAUGHS)-- And I reckon you won't find that in the geology book s either.

JERRY: No, I guess you won't.

JIM: Well -- Seen the schoolma'm lately, Jerry?

JERRY: Mary? - What's that got to do with breaking your match, - or whatever it was we were talking about?

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Nothing specially. I just noticed you seemed to be in pretty good spirits lately.

JERRY: Yeah? Well, maybe it's the weather. -- Here comes Mrs. Robbins, Jim.

JIM: Yep. She's been down to the store, I reckon.

BESS: (OFF) Oh, Jerry.

JERRY: Yes, Mrs. Robbins - Want some help with the door?

BESS: (OFF) Yes. I've got my arms so full of bundles I can't get it open.

JERRY: (GOING TO DOOR) I'll open 'er, Mrs. Robbins. -

(SOUND OF DOOR) There you are. - Gosh, you must be stocking up the kitchen for the next six years!

BESS: (COMING UP) Oh, I needed a few things. And there was a sale on canned goods today. - My! I feel like one of your pack horses, Jim.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) You've got yourself loaded up like one, all right.

JERRY: Here, let me take some of these bundles for you, Mrs. Robbins. Why didn't you leave this stuff at the store and let me go down after it?

BESS: Oh, I didn't mind carrying it, Jerry. -- I've got some mail for you in my pocket book, Jim, soon as I can get my arms free of bundles to get it.

JERRY: There. - Let me take this one too.

BESS: Thanks. - Now, that's a relief. - Here's the mail, Jim.

JIM: Anything that looks interesting, Bess?

BESS: It's all official.

JIM: Hmm. - here's the Bulletin. - And here's one from Regional headquarters. Probably wants another report -

JERRY: Yes? Well, maybe it's the weather. -- Have some
Mrs. Robbins, Jim.
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JERRY: (COMING UP) Oh, I needed a few things. And there was
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your back horses, Jim.
JIM: (CHUCKLES) You've got yourself loaded up like me, all
right.
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Regional headquarters. Probably wants another report.

BESS: Oh, Jerry --

JERRY: Yes?

BESS: Guess who I saw at the post office today.

JERRY: Who?

BESS: It was that young man from the city - the one with the big flashy car, you know, who was up here this summer.

JERRY: Bradley, you mean? The fellow that was hanging around Mary Halloway all summer?

BESS: Yes. Mr. Bradley.

JERRY: (DISGUSTED) Gosh! Is that guy back here in Winding Creek again? I thought we were rid of him.

BESS: I'm sure it was he. --

JERRY: Shucks. I wish that guy'd go 'way from here - and stay away.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Too much competition over the schoolma'm, eh, Jerry?

JERRY: Naw - Mary said she wasn't going to see him any more. - I just don't like that guy - that's all.

BESS: He was talking with Mary Halloway when I saw him at the post office.

JERRY: He was? Say --

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Better look out, Jerry. That city boy'll beat your time yet.

JERRY: Huh?

BESS: Oh, and say, Jerry, I saw Mrs. Moss at the post office too --

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Get an earful of gossip?

BESS: And she said she'd heard that Mary was going to resign her position as school teacher here at Winding Creek -

JERRY: Mary leaving?! -- She never said anything to me about it.

BESS: She said Mary was resigning her position to get married.

JERRY: To get married?! -- Gosh! -- Do you s'pose that's why Bradley's back her again!?

BESS: I'd hate to have Mary leave yere. We'd certainly miss her.

JERRY: (EXCITED) Miss her! Gee! -- I've got to get the straight of this right now! -- Lemme get Mary on the 'phone -- (TO PHONE) Hello! -- Hello! -- Heck, I forgot to crank the darn thing. (RINGS THREE RINGS) -- (TO PHONE) Hello, hello? - Hello, where's Mary?! I mean - uh - may I speak to Miss Holloway, please -- Huh? - Oh. All right. -- Thanks. Good bye (HANGS UP RECEIVER)-- Shucks! She ain't there.

JIM: Most likely on 'er way back to the school about now - Hey, where you going, son?

JERRY: (GOING OFF, EXCITED) I've got to find Mary -- I'm going to find out if it's true -- about her getting married --

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Looks like the boy's a trifle upset, Bess.

(FADEOUT)

(MUSICAL FADEOUT)

JERRY: (CALLS) Hey, Mary! -- Wait a minute, Mary -- will you?

MARY: (OFF) Oh, hello, Jerry. (CLOSER) Why, what's the matter? You look excited.

JERRY: Say, Mary! -- Is it true -- ?!

MARY: Is what true?

MARY: Oh, Mr. Bradley? Why, he told me about a position that was open for a school teacher in the city. He thought I might be interested, but I told him I didn't want to leave Winding Creek.

JERRY: Then you aren't going to marry Bradley?

MARY: He hasn't asked me to marry him.

JERRY: Well, but would you marry him if he did?

MARY: (SLIGHTLY HUFFY) You're very inquisitive, Mr. Quick -- I'll have to get back to the school now.

JERRY: Yeah, but wait a minute, Mary --

MARY: (GOING OFF) Good bye.

(MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

JIM: Got that map in shape, yet, Jerry?

JERRY: N --no -- I haven't finished it yet.

BESS: (ENTERING) Now, Jim, don't you make Jerry work so hard.

JIM: Oh, hello there, Bess. I didn't hear you come in.

(CHUCKLES) And there you go, spoiling my young assistant again. Jerry seems to be having trouble keeping his mind on the job this afternoon.

JERRY: Yeah. I'm afraid I'm not much good for today, Jim.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) That gossip about the schoolma'm's still got you worried, eh, son?

JERRY: I guess so. Mary told me she wasn't going to leave -- but she wasn't very definite about it.

BESS: Well, I'm sure that if she was expecting to leave here, we'd be the very first ones she'd tell about it.

JERRY: Yeah. You'd think so, -- but --

BESS: Someone's coming up the front steps, Jim.

JIM: Yep. I see.

JERRY: Say, it's that guy Bradley!

JIM: Bradley, eh. (CHUCKLES) The young city slicker in person.

JERRY: I'd like to throw him out on his ear.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) That wouldn't be the customary way to treat visitors to the Ranger Station.

(SOUND OF DOOR)

BRADLEY: (OFF) May I come in?

JIM: Sure. Come right in.

BRADLEY: (COMING UP) Hello there, Quick. How are you?

JERRY: (FROSTY) All right.

BRADLEY: How are you, Mr. Robbins?

JIM: Pretty fair, Mr. Bradley.

BRADLEY: Say, this is sure a great Forest you have up here. I wish I could stick around here some more while the weather's still good.

JIM: It's great country all right. Of course we think our Forest is the best there is.

BRADLEY: I think so too. I've got to go back to the city again today, though, and I thought I'd stop in before I left and tell you how much I enjoyed visiting your Forest this summer.

JIM: Thanks. I'm glad you did.

BRADLEY: And I think you fellows sure did a good job handling that big Bald Mountain fire, too. Gosh, I never knew a forest fire was such a bad thing as that. The smoke was so thick right here in Winding Creek you could cut it with a knife.

JIM: It was a bad fire all right.

BRADLEY: And that night it got away from you, you could see the whole side of Bald Mountain outlined in flames. I kept wondering how you men could stay up there and ever come out alive.

JIM: Well, we finally got 'er, Bradley.

BRADLEY: Yes, I know. You fellows sure did a great job that time. I just wanted to tell you that I've got a new idea of what Forest Rangers are. I used to think all they did was ride around and tell people to be careful about cigarettes.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Well, we do that too, sometimes.

BRADLEY: (LAUGHS) I've sure learned enough to be careful with mine. -

JIM: Mr. Bradley, I want to introduce you to Mrs. Robbins. She's the better half of this ranger partnership business here.

BESS: How do you do, Mr. Bradley. I've heard about you.

BRADLEY: (LAUGHING) I'm glad to know you, Mrs. Robbins. I've heard about you, too. I've heard Miss Halloway -- the school teacher -- talk about you many a time. She thinks you're a peach.

BESS: Oh, that's nice. I'm glad she does.

BRADLEY: She sure does. All she ever talked about was you and Mr. Robbins -- and Mr. Quick. She's always talking about Jerry Quick.

JERRY: (SURLY) Yeah?

BRADLEY: I'll say she does, and no foolin'! You ought to be congratulated on your stand in with Mary Halloway.

JERRY: Yeah?

BRADLEY: She's sure a swell girl.

BESS: Yes, she is a sweet girl. We all think the world of her.

BRADLEY: Yes, I know. (LAUGHS) I know Jerry does.

JERRY: Huh?

BRADLEY: Sure. I like her too. But she can't see me at all.

JERRY: That's good.

BRADLEY: Huh? -- (LAUGHS) Say, Quick, there's no need of you're getting sore about me. You rate plenty high with Mary -- you needn't worry about that. Why, I told her about a swell job down in the city today, and she wouldn't even consider it, because -- well, I know darn well it's because of you up here. -- She's a swell girl, though, and if I wasn't already engaged, I'd be tempted to try to give you some competition.

JERRY: You're already engaged?

BRADLEY: Yes.

JERRY: Huh? I thought you and Mary were - uh - there's a rumor going around that Mary was going to get married.

BRADLEY: Yeah, I know. (LAUGHS) Maybe I started it myself. I've said several times that I wouldn't be surprised to see you and Mary step off one of these days.

JERRY: Me? -- Huh, I thought it was you they were talking about.

BRADLEY: Not me. Say, I wouldn't have a look-in -- And besides, I'm already engaged to a girl in my home town -- the best little girl in the world, boy!

JERRY: (WARMING UP) Well -- (LAUGHS) I guess I've got my own ideas about who's the best little girl in the world, Bradley -- but I wish you lot's of luck anyhow -- And say, I -- I'm sorry if I've been kinda grouchy with you here since you came up.

BRADLEY: Oh, that's all right, old man. And thanks for the good wishes. -- Well folks, I guess I'll have to be starting back home. I hope I can get up here again next summer, though -- and bring my wife along next time.

JERRY: Well, good luck to you, Bradley.

JIM: Yep, good luck, son. We hope you do get back here next year.

BESS: Good bye, Mr. Bradley.

BRADLEY: (GOING OFF) Thanks, folks. -- You Rangers - and Rangers' wives - are real folks, all right --

(SOUND OF DOOR)

JERRY: Say -- this guy Bradley ain't such a bad fellow after all.

(FADEOUT WITH JIM AND BESS LAUGHING)

ANNOUNCER: Well, folks, I guess Jerry feels pretty good now, even if the young man from the city did have him worried for a while.

"Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers," giving us glimpses of scenes and events in the life and work of the men who manage and protect this country's great National Forests, comes to you as a presentation of the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service. Tune in at this same your next Thursday, when Ranger Jim and Jerry will be here again.

The role of Jim Robbins is played by Harvey Hays:

is/3:00 P.M.
Oct. 21, 1932

